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REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES*

(covering its work during 1994)

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CHAPTERS VI AND VII

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* This document contains chapters VI and VII of the Special Committee's report to the General Assembly. The general introductory chapter will be issued under the symbol A/49/23 (Part I). Other chapters of the report will be issued under the symbol A/49/23 (Parts II-III and V-VIII). The complete report will be issued subsequently as Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/49/23).

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CHAPTER VI

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES BY THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS ASSOCIATED WITH THE UNITED NATIONS

A. Consideration by the Special Committee

1. At its 1429th meeting, on 15 February 1994, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman (A/AC.109/L.1811), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to take up the above item separately and to consider it at its plenary meetings.

2. The Special Committee considered the item at its 1434th and 1440th meetings, on 12 July and 15 September 1994.

3. In its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account the provisions of General Assembly resolution 48/47 of 10 December 1993 concerning implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations, paragraph 23 of which, the Assembly requested the Committee "to continue to examine the question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session". The Committee also took into account all other relevant resolutions adopted by the Assembly on this subject, including resolution 46/181 of 19 December 1991, endorsing the Plan of Action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism.

4. The Special Committee also took into account the provisions of resolution 1994/37 of the Economic and Social Council, adopted at its 48th plenary meeting, on 29 July 1994. By paragraph 15 of that resolution, the Council drew "the attention of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to the present resolution and to the discussion held on the subject at the substantive session of 1994 of the Economic and Social Council" (E/1994/SR.48). Further, the Committee took into consideration the relevant documents of other intergovernmental bodies concerned, to which reference is made in the fifth preambular paragraph of the resolution it adopted on 15 September (see paras. 9 and 12).

5. During its consideration of the item, the Special Committee had before it a report of the Secretary-General (A/49/216 and Add.1), submitted in response to the request addressed to him by the General Assembly in paragraph 19 of resolution 48/47, containing information on action taken by the organizations of the United Nations system in the implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations referred to above.

6. At the 1434th meeting, on 12 July, the Acting Chairman made a statement (see A/AC.109/PV.1434).

7. At the 1440th meeting, on 15 September, the Acting Chairman reported orally on his participation, on behalf of the Special Committee, in the work of the Economic and Social Council in connection with its consideration of the item during the Council's substantive session for 1994 (A/AC.109/PV.1440).

8. At the same meeting, the Acting Chairman drew attention to the relevant documentation, including the report on the related consultations with the President of the Economic and Social Council under the terms of paragraph 20 of General Assembly resolution 48/47 (A/AC.109/L.1824 and E/1994/114), as well as to a draft resolution submitted by him (A/AC.109/L.1826).

9. At the same meeting, following a statement by the representative of Grenada (A/AC.109.PV.1440), the Special Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/L.1826 without a vote.

10. On 20 September, the text of the resolution (A/AC.109/2011) was transmitted to the Organization of African Unity, the South Pacific Forum, the Caribbean Community and the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system. On the same date, the text of the resolution was transmitted to all States.

B. Decision of the Special Committee

11. The text of the resolution (A/AC.109/2011) adopted by the Special Committee at its 1440th meeting, on 15 September 1994 (see para. 9), is reproduced in section C below, in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly.

C. Recommendation of the Special Committee

12. In accordance with decisions taken at its 1429th and 1434th meetings, on 15 February and 12 July 1994, respectively, the Special Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations",

Having considered the reports submitted on the item by the Secretary-General 1/ and the Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, 2/

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the item, 3/

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and resolution 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960, as well as all other resolutions adopted by the General Assembly on this subject, including, in particular,

resolution 46/181 of 19 December 1991, endorsing the Plan of Action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, 4/

Bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the final documents of the successive Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries and of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, the South Pacific Forum and the Caribbean Community,

Concerned that the objectives of the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples have not been fully achieved,

Noting that the large majority of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories are small island Territories,

Noting that, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 48/193 of 21 December 1993, the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States was held in Barbados from 26 April to 6 May 1994,

Noting also that some Non-Self-Governing Territories participated in the Conference as associate members of regional commissions,

Recalling relevant resolutions of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee concerning the access of Non-Self-Governing Territories to programmes of the United Nations system,

Noting the assistance extended thus far to Non-Self-Governing Territories by certain specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, and considering that such assistance should be expanded further, commensurate with the pressing needs of the peoples concerned for external assistance,

Stressing that, because the development options of small island Non-Self-Governing Territories are limited, there are special challenges to planning for and implementing sustainable development and that those Territories will be constrained in meeting the challenges without the cooperation and assistance of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system,

Stressing the importance of securing necessary resources for funding expanded assistance programmes for the peoples concerned and the need to enlist the support of all major funding institutions within the United Nations system in that regard,

Reaffirming the responsibility of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to take all the necessary measures, within their respective spheres of competence, to ensure the full implementation, without further delay, of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations, particularly those relating to the extension of assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Expressing its appreciation to the Organization of African Unity, the South Pacific Forum and the Caribbean Community, as well as other regional organizations, for the continued cooperation and assistance they have extended

to the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in this regard,

Expressing its conviction that closer contacts and consultations between and among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and regional organizations help to facilitate the effective formulation of assistance programmes to the peoples concerned,

Mindful of the imperative need to keep under continuous review the activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in the implementation of the various United Nations decisions relating to decolonization,

Bearing in mind the extremely fragile economies of the Non-Self-Governing small island Territories and their vulnerability to natural disasters, such as hurricanes, cyclones and sea-level rise, and recalling relevant General Assembly resolutions, in particular resolution 47/189 of 22 December 1992,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 47/22 of 25 November 1992 on cooperation and coordination of specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations in their assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories,

1. Takes note of the report of its Chairman on his consultations with the President of the Economic and Social Council 2/ and endorses the observations and suggestions arising therefrom; 5/

2. Recommends that all States should intensify their efforts in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to ensure the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

3. Reaffirms that the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system should continue to be guided by the relevant resolutions of the United Nations in their efforts to contribute to the full implementation, without further delay, of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and all other relevant General Assembly resolutions;

4. Reaffirms also that the recognition by the General Assembly, the Security Council and other United Nations organs of the legitimacy of the aspiration of the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories to exercise their right to self-determination and independence entails, as a corollary, the extension of all appropriate assistance to those peoples;

5. Expresses its appreciation to those specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that have continued to cooperate with the United Nations and the regional and subregional organizations in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and urges all the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to accelerate the full and speedy implementation of the relevant provisions of those resolutions;

6. Requests the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as international and regional organizations, to examine and review conditions in each Territory so as to take appropriate

measures to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of the Territories;

7. Requests the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations, as well as regional organizations, to strengthen existing measures of support and formulate appropriate programmes of assistance to the remaining Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories, within the framework of their respective mandates, in order to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of those Territories;

8. Also requests the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in formulating their assistance programmes, to take due account of the conclusions and recommendations, entitled "Challenges and opportunities: a strategic framework", of the Meeting of Governmental Experts of Island Developing Countries and Donor Countries and Organizations, held in New York in June 1990; 6/

9. Further requests the specialized agencies to take into account the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, adopted by the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, 7/ in particular its application to small island Non-Self-Governing Territories;

10. Urges the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to formulate programmes that will support the sustainable development of small island Non-Self-Governing Territories and adopt measures that will enable those Territories to cope effectively, creatively and sustainably with environmental changes and to mitigate impacts and reduce the threats posed to marine and coastal resources;

11. Urges the executive heads of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to formulate, with the active cooperation of the regional organizations concerned, concrete proposals for the full implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and to submit the proposals as a matter of priority to their governing and legislative organs;

12. Recommends that the executive heads of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund draw the attention of their governing bodies to the present resolution and consider introducing flexible procedures to prepare specific programmes for the peoples of the Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories;

13. Urges the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that have not already done so to include in the agenda of the regular meetings of their governing bodies a separate item on the progress they have made in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

14. Welcomes the continued initiative exercised by the United Nations Development Programme in maintaining close liaison among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and in providing assistance to the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories, and calls upon the executive bodies of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to consider contributing to the relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts in those Non-Self-Governing Territories affected by natural disasters and to look to the Programme of Action for the Sustainable

Development of Small Island Developing States for guidance concerning their roles in natural disaster preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery, taking into account the outcome of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction;

15. Encourages Non-Self-Governing Territories to take steps to establish and/or strengthen disaster preparedness and management institutions and policies;

16. Urges the administering Powers concerned to facilitate the participation of the representatives of the Governments of Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories in the relevant meetings and conferences of the agencies and organizations so that the Territories may draw the maximum benefits from the related activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system;

17. Recommends that all Governments should intensify their efforts in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system of which they are members to ensure the full and effective implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations and, in that connection, should accord priority to the question of providing assistance on an emergency basis to the peoples of the Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories;

18. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to assist the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in working out appropriate measures for implementing the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and to prepare for submission to the relevant bodies, with the assistance of those agencies and organizations, a report on the action taken in implementation of the relevant resolutions, including the present resolution, since the circulation of his previous report;

19. Commends the Economic and Social Council for its debate and resolution on this issue and requests it to continue to consider, in consultation with the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, appropriate measures for coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in implementing the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

20. Requests the specialized agencies to report periodically to the Secretary-General on the implementation of the present resolution;

21. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit the present resolution to the governing bodies of the appropriate specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations so that those bodies take the necessary measures to implement the resolution, and also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

22. Requests the Special Committee to continue to examine the question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session.

Notes

1/ A/49/216 and Add.1.

2/ A/AC.109/L.1824.

3/ The present chapter.

4/ See A/46/634/Rev.1 of 13 December 1991.

5/ E/1994/114.

6/ A/CONF.147/5-TD/B/AC.46/4, chap. II.

7/ For the report of the Conference, see A/CONF.167/9.

CHAPTER VII

INFORMATION FROM NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES TRANSMITTED UNDER ARTICLE 73 e OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS

A. Consideration by the Special Committee

1. At its 1429th meeting, on 15 February 1994, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman (A/AC.109/L.1811), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to take up the above item separately and to consider it at its plenary meetings.

2. The Special Committee consider the item at its 1434th meeting held on 12 July 1994.

3. In its consideration of the item, the Special Committee took into account the pertinent resolutions of the General Assembly concerning information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations and related questions, in particular resolution 1970 (XVIII) of 16 December 1963, by which the Assembly decided, inter alia, to dissolve the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories and to transfer certain of its functions to the Special Committee, and paragraph 5 of resolution 48/45 of 10 December 1993, by which the Assembly requested the Committee to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under Assembly resolution 1970 (XVIII), in accordance with established procedures, and to report thereon to the Assembly at its forty-ninth session. Further, the Committee took into account the relevant provisions of Assembly resolution 48/52 of 10 December 1993 on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and Assembly resolution 45/33 of 20 November 1990 relating to the thirtieth anniversary of the Declaration.

4. During its consideration of the item, the Special Committee had before it the report of the Secretary-General (A/AC.109/1196), containing information on the dates on which information from the Non-Self-Governing Territories concerned, called for under Article 73 e of the Charter, was transmitted for the years 1992 and 1993 up to 27 June 1994.

5. At the 1434th meeting, on 12 July, the Acting Chairman drew attention to draft resolution A/AC.109/L.1818 on the item.

6. At the same meeting, the Special Committee adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/L.1818 without objection.

7. On 21 July, the text of the resolution (A/AC.109/2005) was transmitted to the representatives of the administering Powers for the attention of their Governments.

B. Decision of the Special Committee

8. The text of the resolution (A/AC.109/2005), adopted by the Special Committee at its 1434th meeting on 12 July 1994 (see para. 6), appears under section C in the form of a recommendation of the Special Committee to the General Assembly.

C. Recommendation of the Special Committee

9. In accordance with decisions taken at its 1429th and 1434th meetings, on 15 February and 12 July 1994, respectively, the Special Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the information from Non-Self-Governing Territories, transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations 1/ and the action taken by the Committee in respect of that information,

Having also examined the report of the Secretary-General on this item, 2/

Recalling its resolution 1970 (XVIII) of 16 December 1963, in which the Assembly requested the Special Committee to study the information transmitted to the Secretary-General in accordance with Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations and to take such information fully into account in examining the situation with regard to the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

Recalling also its resolution 48/45 of 10 December 1993, in which the Assembly requested the Special Committee to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under resolution 1970 (XVIII),

Stressing the importance of timely transmission by the administering Powers of adequate information under Article 73 e of the Charter, in particular in relation to the preparation by the Secretariat of the working papers on the Territories concerned,

1. Approves the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations; 1/

2. Reaffirms that, in the absence of a decision by the General Assembly itself that a Non-Self-Governing Territory has attained a full measure of self-government in terms of Chapter XI of the Charter of the United Nations, the administering Power concerned should continue to transmit information under Article 73 e of the Charter with respect to that Territory;

3. Requests the administering Powers concerned to transmit or continue to transmit to the Secretary-General the information prescribed in Article 73 e of the Charter, as well as the fullest possible information on political and constitutional developments in the Territories concerned, within a maximum period of six months following the expiration of the administrative year in those Territories;

4. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that adequate information is drawn from all available published sources in connection with the preparation of the working papers relating to the Territories concerned;

5. Requests the Special Committee to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under General Assembly resolution 1970 (XVIII), in accordance with established procedures, and to report thereon to the Assembly at its fiftieth session.

Notes

1/ The present chapter.

2/ A/49/384.